



Stonehouse PTA

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Nov 1st** : Daddy O's Spirit Night
- **Nov 4th** (6:30-8pm): Family Game Night (at the school)
- **Nov 7th** (6:30): PTA Meeting (media center)
- **Nov 10th** : Bounce House Spirit Night
- **Nov 14th** :Tropical Smoothie Spirit Night (Mooretown Rd Only)
- **Nov 22nd** : Chik-Fil-A Spirit Night (Mooretown Rd. Only)
- **Dec 5th** : PTA Meeting
- **Dec 7th** : Daddy O's Spirit Night
- **Dec 9th** : Barnes & Noble Event (All Day)

PTA Meeting

Please join us for our next PTA meeting, Monday, Nov. 7th at 6:30 pm in the Media Center.



Box Tops and Farm Fresh Receipts

This is another **DOUBLE** points month for Farm Fresh, so please save those receipts! Also, keep saving those Box Tops. Receipts and Box Tops can be sent to school with your child or dropped off in the main office. Thank you for your support!

Support Your Sea Star Fundraiser!

The Cherrydale Farms Fundraiser is a great way to find the perfect gifts for coaches, teachers, grandparents, and other family and friends and help Stonehouse at the same time. Stonehouse receives 40-50% of sales! Catalogs and envelopes went home with students on Tuesday, November 1st, order turn in date is Monday, November 14, and expected delivery is around December 12, just in time for the holidays. You can also place your order online using our Stonehouse ID code: 162376, or you can email the web site (www.cherrydale.com) to friends and family to order online as well (make sure you email the ID code too).

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Mrs. Hill's 3rd grade classroom was the big winner in the Box Top collection contest that ended on October 14th. During the overall collection period, we collected enough box tops to earn over \$1,000.00 for Stonehouse! The next box top collection deadline will be February 17th, but you can continue sending them in all year. Another great way to earn points for our school is through the Box Tops for Education website at www.btfе.com. Families can log in and do online Christmas shopping and earn points for our school!

Keep up the good work!

From your PTA...

Stonehouse Elementary PTA presented the Virginia Stage Company to K-3rd grades on Oct. 12th. The program titled, "Aesop's Network," was both energetic and fun! The students enjoyed watching and cheering as the performers acted out scenes from many of the fables. The day prior to this event, on Oct. 11th, grades 4-5 watched a performance by the Richmond Ballet titled, "Individuality." The students watched in anticipation as five professional ballet performers (3 male and 2 female) taught them about "individuality" through music and dance. They also enjoyed learning and performing dance steps of their own! This performance was well received by the students, teachers and administration. We hope to have them back again next year!



Reflections 2011

"Diversity Means"

Our reflections entries are in the hands of the judges right now. We had students enter projects in art, dance, literature and photography this year. Winners at the school level will be announced soon. First place winners will be entered in the Peninsula District Reflections contest in December.

This weekend Sydney Crocetta's art work from 2010 "Together we Can" will compete at the State level in Richmond. Best of luck, Sydney!

Chik-Fil-A
Spirit Night
is Tuesday,
November 22nd !
Don't forget to tell
them you're from
Stonehouse!



Stonehouse Spirit



Hey Stonehouse Families! Happy November! Thanks to your support, our October **Spirit Night** brought in \$90.00 for your PTA! Remember, this money goes directly to our children's classrooms. As you are looking at the month ahead, be sure to get these dates on your November Calendar.

We know how busy families are this time of year so we wanted you to be able to plan ahead - we hope to see you at one or more of these fun family events this month!

Tues., Nov1st - Daddy O's from 5 - 8

Thurs., Nov 10th - Bounce House from 4 - 8

Mon. Nov14th - Tropical Smoothie from 5 - 8

Tues. Nov 22nd - Chik-Fil-A from 5 - 8

The SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER SAYS

Wow!!! This year is really flying by...I can't believe it is November already. With all that occurred at the beginning of the school year it has taken me so much longer to settle into the normal school year routines, including welcoming everyone back and providing you with my information. Please forgive the delay and let me pretend, for a moment, that it is right at the beginning of the school year. Picture those first weeks of school – excitement, new teachers, new clothes, fresh school supplies...now picture yourself reading the first newsletter of the year. Here we go...

Hello Stonehouse Sea Stars! It is so great to be back at Stonehouse again this year. My name is Stephanie Leek and I am your School Social Worker. I am very excited for this school year and to support the students, staff and PTA of Stonehouse.

Some of the ways I can do that are:

- Providing counseling services, both individually and in the group setting
- Working with teachers to identify concerns/needs of students and develop effective interventions
- Providing services/information to parents on topics such as parenting skills, child development, and behaviors
- Identifying community resources
- Being a link to the school for any family

My office is located inside the main office and I am at Stonehouse Tuesdays and Thursdays. Feel free to call me here at Stonehouse anytime at x-49414 or at 603-6436. My e-mail is leeks@wjcc.k12.va.us. I look forward to talking with you!

From the Mental Health Team

Parents and guardians,

Do you know that everyone carries around an invisible bucket full of good thoughts and feelings about themselves? The Stonehouse counselors have been teaching classroom guidance lessons using the book, HAVE YOU FILLED A BUCKET TODAY? A Guide to Daily Happiness for Kids by Carol McCloud, illustrated by David Messing. The students have been practicing “bucket filling” words and behaviors such as; compliments, telling someone you like or love them, smiling at someone, playing with a new friend, saying thank you to people who teach or help you, doing chores or school work without complaining, showing appreciation to the adults who take care of you, being a caring friend, and lots of other positive behaviors.

We have also been talking about “bucket dipping” behaviors, such as teasing, hitting or hurting, making fun of others, talking negatively about others, not doing our best at home and school, bullying, whining, tattling, fussing, and whatever students identified as negative “bucket emptying” behaviors.

“When you’re a bucket filler, you make your home, your school, and your neighborhood better places to be. Bucket filling makes everyone feel good.”

That’s a great goal for all of our Stonehouse bucket fillers!

Stephanie Leek, social worker

Jennifer Tingley, school psychologist

Lisa Fisher, guidance counselor grades K,1

Helen Hansen, temporary guidance counselor grades 2 - 5



Stonehouse Elementary PTA 2011/2012 Board and Chairperson Listing

President	Mary Dillon	dillonm@wjcc.k12.va.us
Vice President	Cori Tobler	toblerc@wjcc.k12.va.us
Treasurer	Gina Wiatrowski	gina@ginabw.com
Secretary	Jennifer Shackley	jenshackley@gmail.com
Book Fair	Becky Reed	wreed28@cox.net
Box Tops	Andrea McCormick	andrea.mccormick@yahoo.com
Campbell Soup Labels	Jennifer Moore	jenniferm10@cox.net
Carnival	Mary Dillon	dillonm@wjcc.k12.va.us
Silent Auction	Sabrina Crocetta	
Cultural Arts	Terri Myers	tlabmom@aol.com
Spirit Nights	Dawn Padden & Jennifer Gray	dpadden@shpchurch.org Jmbst149@hotmail.com
Farm Fresh Receipts	Lori Chaney	pchaney5@cox.net
General Fundraising	Julie Olsen	julolsen@cox.net
Hospitality	Amy Metivier & Angie Giachetta	mrtiv@sgs.hrcoxmail.com
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Reflections	Pam Lundberg	p.lundberg@cox.net
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Teacher Representative	Scott Kline	klines@wjcc.k12.va.us
Volunteers	Danna Wise	rwise6@cox.net
Yearbook	Cori Tobler	toblerc@wjcc.k12.va.us

Find Us on Facebook



That's right; the Stonehouse Elementary PTA is on Facebook! As communication methods are changing, your PTA is changing to better utilize new tools. In addition to all the information sent home with the students, and posted on the school website we will be posting on Facebook as well.

Become a fan to get updates on:

- The school calendar, including early release dates and special events
- Information from the WJCC school division
- PTA meeting announcements and minutes
- Fundraising opportunities and information
- General information all families can use to help their student(s) succeed

Stonehouse Habitat News

By Jan Newton

The Stonehouse Habitat had a great summer and looks beautiful this fall. If you haven't stopped by or taken your class to visit or study in the Habitat, you are missing a spectacular show of color by the purple muhly grass, swamp sunflowers, blue mistflowers, beautyberry, winterberry and other fall-blooming and fruiting native plants. Many species of wildlife, such as various butterflies, hummingbirds, bees, birds, rabbits, beetles, caterpillars, praying mantis, toads and tree frogs have been feeding and living in the Habitat. Stonehouse students and faculty are enjoying seeing and learning about nature up close.

The Habitat Helpers program, led by parent volunteer and native plant expert Mrs. Jan Newton, has started up with groups of students from Mrs. Miller's and Mrs. Pitt's classes giving up a recess once a week to help with various tasks such as collecting seeds, weeding, planting, mulching, and pruning. While helping in the Habitat, students learn about the benefits of native plants for wildlife, erosion, life cycles of butterflies, ladybugs and other wildlife, the value of adding compost to soil, and information about plants and critters that help reinforce what they are learning in their indoor classrooms. Right now Mrs. Newton, and sometimes additional adult volunteers, are working in the Habitat on Friday afternoons from 12 noon to about 2:00 or 3:00 pm and there is room for more classes to participate in the Habitat Helpers program. Contact Mrs. Newton at jnewton110@cox.net if you are your student is interested or if you have any questions about the Habitat. A special thanks goes to Olivia McKee as she and her family donated a "peek-a-boo" birdhouse to the Habitat this past spring. We are hoping a family of birds will make it their home one day.

Featured Habitat Plant

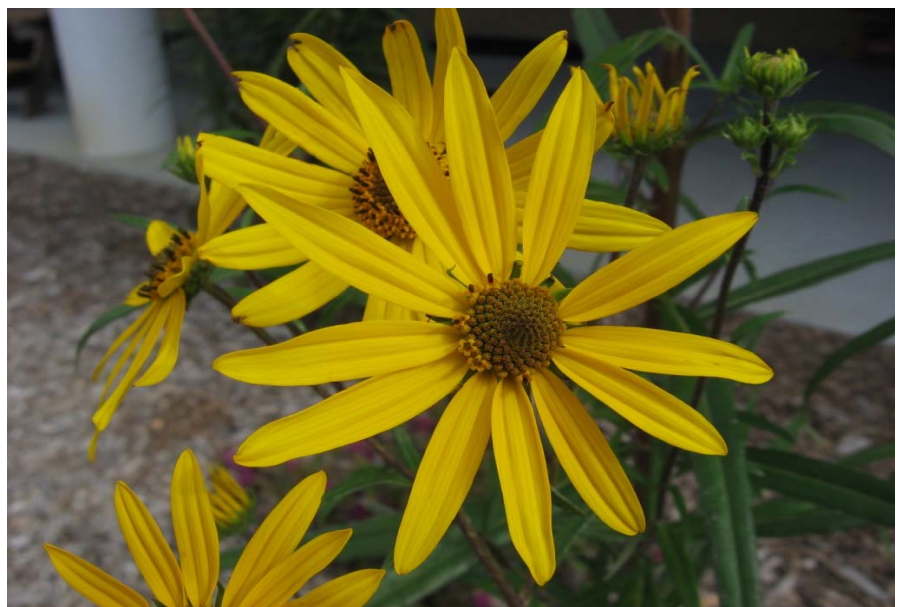
The featured native habitat plant for this month is the swamp sunflower, also know by its scientific name as *Helianthus angustifolius*. Swamp sunflower has narrow dark green leaves and produces 3 1/2 inch bright, golden-yellow daisy-like flowers in August through October and, often, in November. The plant can reach heights of 6-14 feet and grows best in full sun and damp soil, but will do fine in a dryer area if mulched. Swamp sunflower produces plantlets at its base to form a growing clump. Plants are easily propagated by dividing offspring. Butterflies love the nectar and later the seeds are eaten by many birds.



Photo: Olivia showing off the birdhouse; by Jan Newton

Visit the Habitat...

Photo: *Helianthus angustifolius*; by Jan Newton



You are invited!

- What?** *Parent Education Group:*
Parent Teacher Conferences:
Planning For Success
Facilitated by Stephanie Leek, School Social Worker
- Where?** Stonehouse Elementary School
Music Room #2
- When?** November 15, 2011
1:30—2:45
- Who?** For parents of Stonehouse School students

Conference time is almost here. What can you expect from your conference? What information would you like to know about your child? What questions should you ask the teacher? What does all that information mean? Come find out how to make the most of your time with your child's teacher!

Please return the form below to your child's teacher **by November 11**. Also, let us know below if child care for pre-school children with a Stonehouse volunteer would make it easier for you to attend the workshop.

Name _____ Phone _____

Student name(s) & grade(s) _____

_____ Yes. Child care on the dates that I have checked above will allow me to attend.